(c) Government has taken up this issue with the Chinese side, including during the recent visit of the President of China to India. In the Joint Declaration issued on November 21, 2006 during the visit the two sides agreed to set up an expert-level mechanism to discuss interaction and cooperation on the provision of flood season hydrological data, emergency management and other issues regarding trans-border rivers.

Formation of Haj Corporation

926. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received by Government for a one time contribution of Rs. 750 crores for formation of a Haj Corporation to finance and manage the Haj operations in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNALAFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) A Task for Hon'ble Members of Parliament led by Shri K. Rahman Khan, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha has recommended the setting up of an organization along the lines of 'Tabung Haji' of Malaysia which can, *inter alia*, mobilize the savings from prospective pilgrims, invest in instruments which are permissible under *Shariat*, distribute the returns on their savings to depositors and undertake Haj Management by providing all related services. The Task Force Report has envisaged the structure of the proposed financial institution to be a separate corporation either as a statutory body or under the Indian Company Act with Government equity participation of at least 40% of the proposed equity base of Rs. 1500 crores. The issue of setting up such an institution is yet to be decided and contribution by Government of India will have to be decided thereafter.

Move made by India at NAM Summit

927. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any move was made by India at recent NAM Summit in connection with growing incidence of cross border terrorism; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by Summit thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) At the recent NAM Summit in Havana (Cuba), at which Prime Minister led India's delegation, terrorism was among the important issues discussed by NAM member countries. In his statement, Prime Minister stressed that NAM could not equivocate on the subject of terrorism and called on NAM countries to send a message that they were united in their desire to fight and eliminate the scourge of terrorism. The Summit's final document, adopted by consensus, strongly and unequivocally condemns terrorism as criminal, and rejects it in all its forms and manifestations, as well as all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever, by whomever, against whomsoever committed, including those in which States are directly or indirectly involved, which are unjustifiable whatever the considerations or factors that may be involved to justify them. The document reiterates the need to conclude a Comprehensive Convention on international terrorism.

Diversion of water of Brahmaputra

†928. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China is going to divert 200 billion cubic meter water of the Brahmaputra river originating from Tibet towards China by constructing a dam over it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have expressed its protest at diplomatic level with China for safeguarding the interest of India; and

(d) whether Government would take up the matter with the President of China during his recent visit so that the consequent adverse effect on the country could be avoided?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There are reports regarding China undertaking projects to divert waters of the Brahmaputra river. The Spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Chinese Ambassador in India have denied such reports saying that China has no such plans to build a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.